

# Cardiac hypertrophy and failure



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and  
Division of Clinical Physiology



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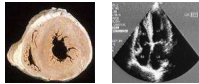
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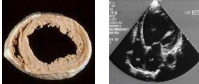
## Left ventricular hypertrophy

### 1. Ventricular remodeling

- changes in *size, shape, structure* and *physiology* of the heart after myocardial injury
- compensatory mechanism for the increased preload and afterload
- a series of histopathological and structural changes occur in the left ventricular (LV) myocardium, which lead to a progressive decline in LV performance
- first step is the development of **ventricular hypertrophy** in an attempt to maintain systolic wall stress
- *pressure* overload (hypertension, aortic stenosis) - **concentric hypertrophy**  
(parallel replication of myofibrils and thickening of individual myocytes)



- *volume* overload (aortic or mitral regurgitation) - **ventricular dilatation**  
(replication of sarcomeres in series and elongation of myocytes)



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## Pathophysiology of LV remodeling

**Remodeling stimuli**  
(wall stress, cytokines, neurohormones, oxidative stress)



- myocyte growth and hypertrophy
- alterations in: - extracellular matrix  
- myocardial energetics  
- Ca-handling proteins (SERCA2, phospholamban)
- myocyte death (necrosis and apoptosis)
- fetal gene expression



Increase in myocardial mass (LV hypertrophy)  
Chamber dilatation  
Interstitial matrix accumulation (fibrosis)



**SYSTOLIC and/or DIASTOLIC DYSFUNCTION**

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## Heart failure - Definition

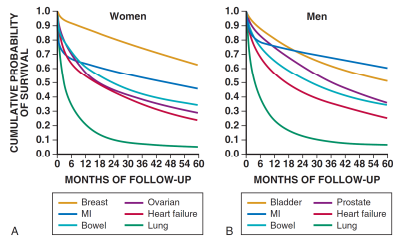
### European Society of Cardiology/Heart Failure Association - 2016:

Heart failure is a **clinical syndrome** characterized by typical *symptoms* that may be accompanied by *signs* caused by a **structural and/or functional cardiac abnormality**, resulting in a reduced cardiac output and/or elevated intracardiac pressures at rest or during stress.

ESC Guidelines, *European Heart Journal* (2016) 37, 2129–2200.

## Epidemiology and prognosis of heart failure

- 15 million patients with heart failure in Europe (5 million patients in the U.S.)
- prevalence 2% (6-10% above 65 years)
- accounts for 5% of the acute hospitalizations (1 million patients/year in the U.S.)
- 2% of the total health expenditure (5,4% in the U.S., 38 billion USD/year)
- incidence doubles in every 10 years
- high mortality (20-80%), (300.000 patients/year in the U.S. )



Five-year survival following a first admission for heart failure, myocardial infarction, and the four most common sites of cancer specific to men and women.

Modified from Stewart S, *Eur J Heart Fail* 3:315, 2001.

## Aetiologies of heart failure I.

1. DISEASED MYOCARDIUM	
Ischaemic heart disease	Myocardial scar
	Myocardial stunning/hibernation
	Epicardial coronary artery disease
	Abnormal coronary microcirculation
Toxic damage	Recreational substance abuse Alcohol, cocaine, amphetamine, anabolic steroids.
	Heavy metals Copper, iron, lead, cobalt.
	Medications Cytotoxic drugs (e.g. anthracyclines), immunomodulating drugs (e.g. interferon monoclinal antibodies such as rituximab, rituximab), antidepressant drugs, antiarrhythmics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, anaesthetics.
Immune-mediated and inflammatory damage	Related to infection Bacteria, spirochaetes, fungi, protozoa, parasites (Chagas disease), rickettsiae, viruses (HIV/AIDS).
	Not related to infection Lymphocytic giant cell myocarditis, autoimmune diseases (e.g. Graves' disease, rheumatoid arthritis, connective tissue disorders, mainly systemic lupus erythematosus), hypersensitivity and eosinophilic myocarditis (Churg-Strauss).
Infiltration	Related to malignancy Tissue infiltrations and neoplasms.
	Not related to malignancy Amyloidosis, sarcoidosis, haemochromatosis (iron), glycogen storage diseases (e.g. Pompe disease), lysosomal storage diseases (e.g. Fabry disease).
Metabolic derangements	Hormonal Thyroid diseases, parathyroid diseases, acromegaly, GH deficiency, hypercortisolism, Conn's disease, Addison disease, diabetes, metabolic syndrome, pheochromocytoma, pathologies related to pregnancy and peripartum.
	Nutritional Deficiencies in thiamine, L-carnitine, selenium, iron, phosphates, calcium, complex malnutrition (e.g. malignancy/AIDS, anorexia nervosa), obesity.
Genetic abnormalities	Diverse forms HCM, DCM, LV non-compaction, ARVC, restrictive cardiomyopathy (for details see respective expert documents), muscular dystrophies and laminopathies.

ARVC = arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; DCM = dilated cardiomyopathy; EMF = endomyocardial fibrosis; GH = growth hormone; HCM = hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; HES = hypertensive syndrome; HIV/AIDS = human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome; LV = left ventricular.

## Aetiologies of heart failure II.

2. ABNORMAL LOADING CONDITIONS		
Hypertension		
Valve and myocardium structural defects	Acquired	Mitral, aortic, tricuspid and pulmonary valve diseases.
	Congenital	Atrial and ventricular septum defects and others (for details see a respective expert document).
Pericardial and endomyocardial pathologies	Pericardial	Constrictive pericarditis Pericardial effusion
	Endomyocardial	HES, EMF, endocardial fibroelastosis.
High output states		Severe anaemia, sepsis, thyrotoxicosis, Paget's disease, arteriovenous fistula, pregnancy.
Volume overload		Renal failure, iatrogenic fluid overload.
3. ARRHYTHMIAS		
Tachyarrhythmias		Atrial, ventricular arrhythmias.
Bradyarrhythmias		Sinus node dysfunctions, conduction disorders.

ARVC = arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; DCM = dilated cardiomyopathy; EMF = endomyocardial fibrosis; GH = growth hormone; HCM = hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; HES = hypertrophic syndrome; HIV/AIDS = human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome; LV = left ventricular; ESC Guidelines, *European Heart Journal* (2016) 37, 2129–2200.

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## Clinical forms of heart failure

- Right vs. left heart failure (backward vs. forward failure)
- Low-output vs. high-output heart failure
- Acute vs. chronic heart failure
- Heart failure with reduced (**HFrEF**), mid-range (**HFmrEF**) and preserved (**HFpEF**) ejection fraction (EF) (2016-)




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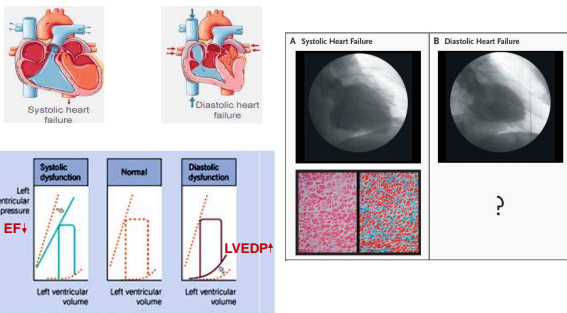
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## HFrEF vs. HFpEF: distinct heart failure phenotypes



Redfield MM. *NEJM*, 2004; 350, 1930-1931.

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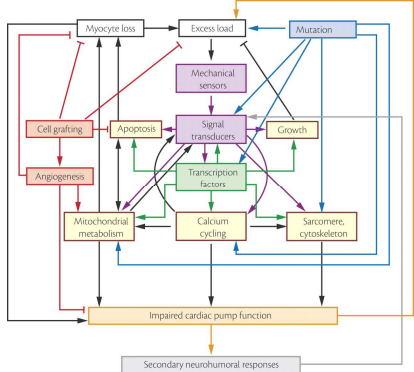
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## Biological circuits in HFREF



McMurray, J. et al. ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine




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## Activation of the Frank-Starling mechanism and the neurohumoral system in HFREF

1. The **Frank-Starling** mechanism (the law of heterometric autoregulation)  
 • rise in preload increases the force of contraction, thereby helping restore stroke volume

2. Activation of **neurohumoral systems**  
 The extent of activation of the autonomic nervous system and endogenous hormone production seems to vary with the clinical state of the patient.

- a/ Circulatory reflexes (increased vasoconstrictor activity)
- b/ **Sympathetic nervous system activation**



### **Mycardial effects**

- Downregulation of  $\beta_1$ -receptors
- Increased ic.  $Ca^{2+}$  concentration
- Arrhythmias
- Cardiomyocyte apoptosis
- Interstitial fibrosis



### **Renal effects**

- RAAS activation
- Renal vasoconstriction
- Impaired natriuretic answer



### **Vascular effects**

- Increased peripheral vasoconstriction

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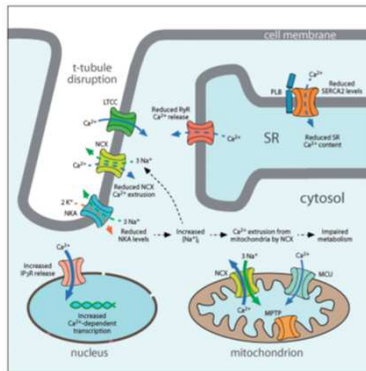
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## Altered $Ca^{2+}$ -signaling and contractile deficit in failing cardiomyocytes



Aronsen JM. Scandinavian Cardiovascular Journal, 2016; 50:2, 65-77.

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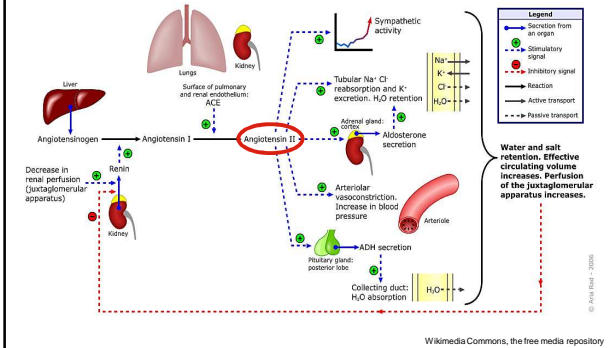
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## Activation of RAAS in HFrEF

### c/ Activation of the Renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS)




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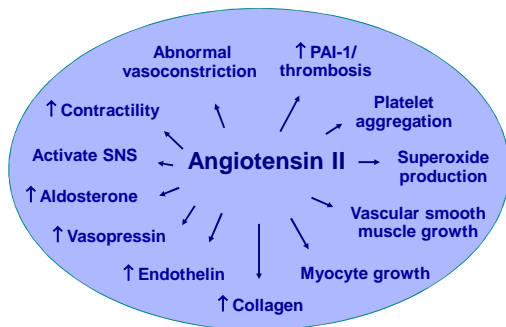
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## Pathophysiologic effects of angiotensin II




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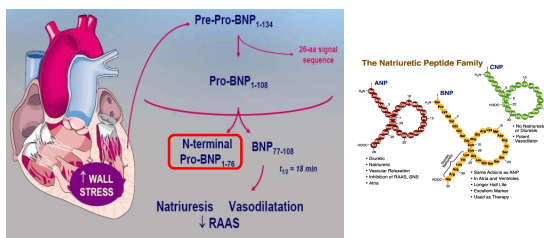
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## The role of natriuretic peptides in heart failure

### d/ Natriuretic peptides

- ANP, BNP, NT-proBNP, CNP, dendroaspis, urodilatin
- released from cardiomyocytes in response to atrial and ventricular wall stretch




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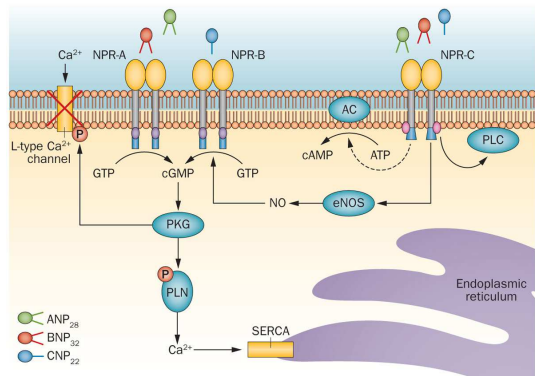
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### Natriuretic peptides: signal transduction pathways



Zois NE. *Nature Reviews Cardiology* 11, 403–412. (2014)

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### Natriuretic peptides: complex physiological effects

- Inhibition of the sympathetic nervous system and the RAAS
- Natriuretic and diuretic effects (kidney and distal tubules)
- Vasodilatory effects, smooth muscle relaxation (decreased PVR)
- Vascular system: antiproliferative, antifibrotic and antihypertrophic effects
- Myocardial effects: direct lusitropy (relaxation)

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### Heart failure: clinical importance of natriuretic peptides

1. Diagnosis
2. Prognosis
3. Follow-up the effectiveness of HFrEF therapy
4. Therapy (recombinant human BNP (nesiritide), ARNI)

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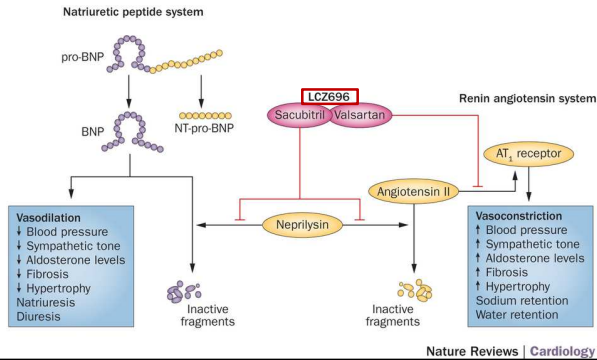
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## Natriuretic peptides, as therapeutic targets: ARNI

LCZ696 is an **ARNI** (Angiotensin Receptor Neprilysin Inhibitor) which reduces the strain on the failing heart, enhances the levels of natriuretic and other endogenous vasoactive peptides, while also inhibits the RAAS.




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## Pathophysiology of heart failure: Maladaptive responses

„Overshoots” of compensatory responses in HF:

1. Vasoconstriction → decrease in cardiac output
2. Increase in heart rate → increase in energy consumption
3. Hormonal (renal) responses → excessive fluid accumulation
4. Hypertrophy → impaired energetics, ischaemia
5. Increase in collagen content → impaired relaxation

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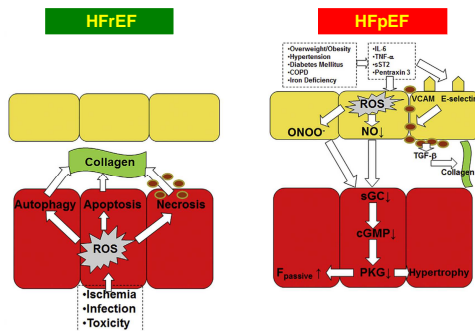
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## HFrEF vs. HFpEF: distinct pathophysiology - the novel paradigm



Paulus WJ, JACC, 2013, 62, 263-271.

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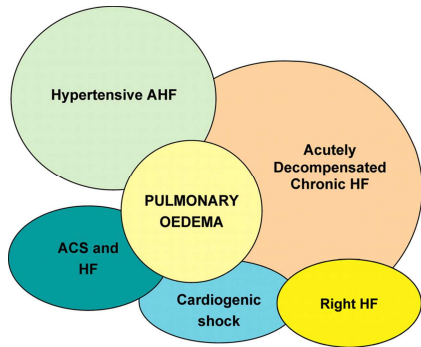
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## Common clinical manifestations of heart failure



Dickstein K. et al., Eur Heart J (2008) 29 (19): 2388-2442.

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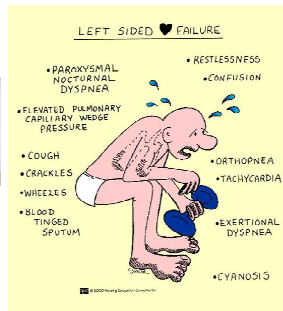
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## Symptoms – Left sided failure

### Backward failure:

- **Dyspnea**
  - On exertion and/or at rest
  - Paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea (PND)
  - Orthopnea
  - Pulmonary edema
  - Cheyne-Stokes
- **Pulmonary crackles** (Kilip classification)
- **Cough, sputum** („asthma cardiale“)



### Forward failure:

- **Hypotension**
- **Pallid and cold limbs** (vasoconstriction)
- „Clear“ lungs

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## Symptoms – Right sided failure

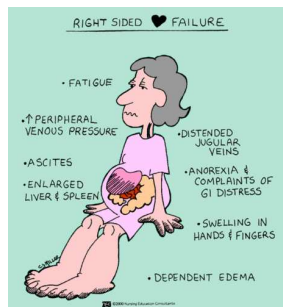
- **Fatigue**
- **Peripheral edema, ascites**
- **Jugular vein distension**
- **Spleno- és hepatomegaly** („cardiac cirrhosis“)
- **Gastrointestinal complains**



Ankle swelling



Elevated jugular venous pressure



Cardiovascular Medicine

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## Classification of heart failure by symptoms relating to structural capacity (NYHA) or by structural abnormality (ACC/AHA)

### NYHA functional classification

Severity based on **symptoms and physical activity**

**Class I** No limitation of physical activity. Ordinary physical activity does not cause undue fatigue, palpitation, or dyspnoea.

**Class II** Slight limitation of physical activity. Comfortable at rest, but ordinary physical activity results in fatigue, palpitation, or dyspnoea.

**Class III** Marked limitation of physical activity. Comfortable at rest, but less than ordinary activity results in fatigue, palpitation, or dyspnoea.

**Class IV** Unable to carry on any physical activity without discomfort. Symptoms at rest. If any physical activity is undertaken, discomfort is increased.

### ACC/AHA stages of heart failure

Stage of heart failure based on **structure and damage** to heart muscle

**Stage A** At high risk for developing heart failure. No identified structural or functional abnormality; no signs or symptoms.

**Stage B** Developed structural heart disease that is strongly associated with the development of heart failure, but without signs or symptoms.

**Stage C** Symptomatic heart failure associated with underlying structural heart disease

**Stage D** Advanced structural heart disease and marked symptoms of heart failure at rest despite maximal medical therapy.

ACC, American College of cardiology; AHA, American Heart Association; NYHA, New York Heart Association.

(Dickstein K. et al., *Eur Heart J.* 2008; **29**: 2388-442.)

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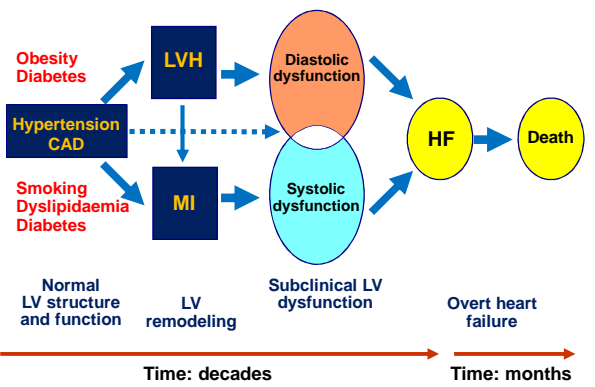
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## Progression of heart failure




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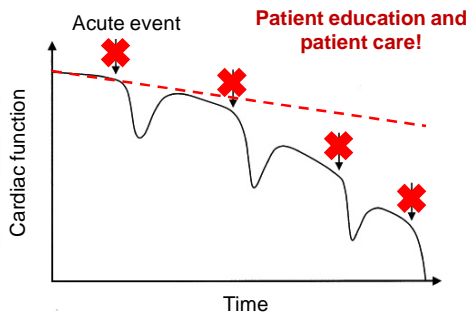
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## Prevention of heart failure




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Thank you for your attention!



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